

REMARKS

The Office examined claims 1-8 and 10-27, and rejected same. With this paper, claims 1 and 25 are amended, claims 22, 23 and 24 are canceled without prejudice, and none are added. The application now includes claims 1-8, 10-21, and 25-27.

Claim Rejections under 35 USC §102

The Office rejected claims 22 under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Nilsson (U.S. Patent No. 6,400,967).

With this paper, claim 22 and dependent claims thereof, claims 23 and 24, are canceled without prejudice.

Claim Rejections under 35 USC §103

At Section 5 of the Office Action, claims 1-4, 6-7, 17-18 and 25-27 are rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hawkins *et al* (U.S. Patent No. 6,516,202) in view of Nilsson.

Claim 1 recites a housing for an electronic device. The housing comprise a unitary tubular body. The unitary body has an open end for insertion of electronic components therein, a plurality of apertures in one face to receive the keys of a keymat mounted on an inner wall of the body, and an opening in another face opposite the apertures to receive a battery pack. When the electronic components are inserted into the body, the body substantially houses the components. Claim 17 recites an electronic device incorporating the housing of claim 1. Claim 25 recites a method for making the body of claim 1.

In rejecting claims 1, 17 and 25, the Office refers to Figure 3A of Hawkins for asserting that Hawkins teaches a unitary body having an open end for inserting a cellular component. Applicant respectfully submits that, first, the housing of an organizer in Hawkins, as shown in Figure 3A and further in Figure 3B, is not a unitary body. Rather, the main body of the housing comprises at least a front piece and a back piece. The joint between the two pieces is clearly outlined in Figure 3A. Second, a void 320 shown in Figure 3A, as being interpreted by the Office as being equivalent to the open end of claim 1, is not an opening for

insertion of electronic components. In fact, in Figures 3A and 3B of Hawkins, the void 320 is clearly shown not being an opening but a recessed area. The recess 320 is designed to receive an extra component (col. 3, lines 6-7, of Hawkins), for example connecting a cellular component 350 to an organizer component 300, so as to add to the functionality of the organizer component.

As shown in Figure 3A of Hawkins, the only part of the cellular component that may be inserted into the organizer component is the connector 385. The main body of the cellular component 350 is attached to the organizer component, not inserted into the housing of the organizer component. Although the organizer component is housed in the main body, there is no mentioning in Hawkins that the organizer component is inserted into the main body, as is in the present invention as cited in claims 1, 17 and 25. In Figure 3B, it is apparent that the electronic components of the organizer are mounted in the housing, and the back piece of the housing is attached to the front piece by fasteners after the components are mounted.

For further distinguishing the present invention with Hawkins, claim 1 and 25 are amended to specify that the when the electronic components are inserted into the body, the body substantially houses the components.

Furthermore, the Office asserts that, with regard to Figure 3A, Hawkins teaches that the body includes a plurality of apertures in one face to receive the keys of a keymat. Applicant respectfully submits that, Hawkins does not mention such an arrangement anywhere in the reference. In fact, there are possible arrangements that the keys may be part of the body and there is therefore no need for them to protrude through the body or mounted on the inner wall of the body.

The Office acknowledges that Hawkins does not teach a tubular body, but asserts that Nilsson teaches such a feature and it is obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the teachings of Hawkins and Nilsson.

Applicant respectfully submits that, there is lack of suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to combine the teachings of the references. Hawkins teaches adding functionality to an organizer, which inevitably increases the number of components in a unit and the value of the

unit. Nilsson teaches simplifying a wireless instrument, so that it can be inexpensive and disposable (col. 4, lines 19-31 of Nilsson). If the Hawkins' device were enclosed in a tubular body of Nilsson, there would be no possibility for adding additional components for additional functionality. Hawkins discloses an organizer component that can operate independently and, in order to increase the functionality of the organizer, a cellular component may be attached. In Hawkins, there is no discussion of inserting components within the housing, as an organizer manufacturer would not leave a space in the housing body in the belief that a customer would later add functionality to the product by inserting components/module within the body. In Nilsson, if the tubular body were so designed to accommodate the additional components, the dimensions of the device would be unnecessarily increased and the device would be more expensive and less disposable.

Therefore, claim 1 is not obvious with regard to Hawkins in view of Nilsson. Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 1 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Claim 17 recites an electronic device incorporating the housing of claim 1. Claim 25 recites a method for making the body of claim 1. In order to be consistent with claim 1, claim 25 is amended to recite the same limitations of claim 1. Since claim 1 is believed patentable for the reasons given above, claims 17 and 25 are patentable as well. Applicant respectfully requests the rejections of claims 17 and 25 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

In addition, dependent claims 2-4, 6-7, 18-21 and 26-27 are also believed to be patentable over Hawkins in view of Nilsson. Applicants respectfully request the rejection of these claims be reconsidered and withdrawn.

At Section 6 of the Office Action, claims 23-24 are rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nilsson in view of Nixon (U.S. Patent No. 6,111,760).

As mentioned above, claims 23 and 24 are canceled without prejudice.

At Section 7 of the Office Action, claims 5, 8, 11-16, and 19-21 are rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hawkins in view of Nilsson and further in view of Kubo (U.S. Patent No. 6,580,923).

Claims 5, 8, 11-16, and 19-21 are dependent claims of claim 1. Since claim 1 is believed to be patentable, applicants therefore request that the rejections of claims 5, 8, 11-16, and 19-21 also be reconsidered and withdrawn.

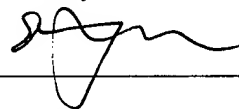
Conclusions

For all the foregoing reasons it is believed that all of the claims of the application are now in condition for allowance, and their passage to issue is earnestly solicited. Applicants' agent urges the Examiner to call to discuss the present response if there are any questions.

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Respectfully submitted,



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